



June 27, 2014

**CONFIDENTIAL – NOT FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION**

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communication Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

**GVNW CONSULTING, INC.**  
8050 SW WARM SPRINGS STREET  
SUITE 200  
P.O. BOX 2330  
TUALATIN, OR 97062  
TEL 503.612.4400  
FAX 503.612.4401  
www.gvnw.com

*VIA FedEx*

Re: Confidential Financial Information Subject to Protective Order in WC Docket Nos. 10- 90, 07-135, 05-337, 03-109, CC Docket Nos. 01-92, 96-45, GN Docket No. 09-51, WT Docket No. 10-208. Before the Federal Communications Commission.  
Form 481 – Carrier Annual Reporting Data Collection, 2014

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc. ("ASTAC"), GVNW Consulting, Inc. hereby submits the attached redacted and confidential versions of its "FCC Form 481 – Carrier Annual Reporting Data Collection" information pursuant to sections 54.313 and 54.422 of the Commission's rules, as filed with the Universal Service Administrative Company. A copy is also being submitted to the Public Utility Commission of Alaska.

ASTAC requests confidential treatment pursuant to sections 0.457 and 0.459 of the Commission's rules for the Five-Year Build-Out Plan that is required by section 54.313(a)(1) to be attached to this report. The information contained in the Five-Year Build-Out plan contains competitively sensitive information, including but not limited to projected build-out plans and capital expenditures, that is secure from public access that could be used by a competitor to disadvantage or harm ASTAC.

In accordance with the Protective Order, two redacted copies marked "REDACTED – FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION" and one non redacted confidential version marked "CONFIDENTIAL – NOT FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION" are being filed with the Commission. A redacted copy has also been filed via the Electronic Comment Filing System.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 503-612-4409.

Sincerely,

Jeff Smith  
GVNW Consulting, Inc.

Enclosures

Cc: Mr. Charles Tyler, FCC Telecommunications Access Policy Division (two copies, confidential)

**FCC Form 481 - Carrier Annual Reporting  
Data Collection Form**

 FCC Form 481  
 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819  
 July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	613001
<015>	Study Area Name	ARCTIC SLOPE TEL
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name: Person USAC should contact with questions about this data	Clover McNeil
<035>	Contact Telephone Number: Number of the person identified in data line <030>	9075642680 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address: Email of the person identified in data line <030>	clover@astac.net

ANNUAL REPORTING FOR ALL CARRIERS		54.313 Completion Required	54.422 Completion Required
<100>	Service Quality Improvement Reporting (complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<200>	Outage Reporting (voice) (complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<210>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ← check box if no outages to report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<300>	Unfulfilled Service Requests (voice) 0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<310>	Detail on Attempts (voice) (attach descriptive document)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<320>	Unfulfilled Service Requests (broadband) 0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<330>	Detail on Attempts (broadband) (attach descriptive document)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<400>	Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers (voice)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<410>	Fixed 0.0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<420>	Mobile 0.0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<430>	Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers (broadband)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<440>	Fixed 0.0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<450>	Mobile 0.0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<500>	Service Quality Standards & Consumer Protection Rules Compliance (check to indicate certification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<510>	613001akSvcQuality&CPNI510.pdf (attach descriptive document)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<600>	Functionality in Emergency Situations (check to indicate certification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<610>	613001akEmergency610.pdf (attach descriptive document)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<700>	Company Price Offerings (voice) (complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<710>	Company Price Offerings (broadband) (complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<800>	Operating Companies and Affiliates (complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<900>	Tribal Land Offerings (Y/N)? (if yes, complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<1000>	Voice Services Rate Comparability (check to indicate certification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<1010>	613001akRateComparability1010.pdf (attach descriptive document)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<1100>	Terrestrial Backhaul (Y/N)? (if not, check to indicate certification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<1110>	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<1200>	Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers (complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**Price Cap Carriers, Proceed to Price Cap Additional Documentation Worksheet**

Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers

<2000>	(check to indicate certification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<2005>	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Rate of Return Carriers, Proceed to ROR Additional Documentation Worksheet</b>			
<3000>	(check to indicate certification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<3005>	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**(100) Service Quality Improvement Reporting  
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	613001
<015>	Study Area Name	ARCTIC SLOPE TEL
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Clover McNeil
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	9075642680 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	clover@astac.net
<110>	Has your company received its ETC certification from the FCC?	(yes / no) <input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/>
<111>	If your answer to Line <110> is yes, do you have an existing §54.202(a) "5 year plan" filed with the FCC?	(yes / no) <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>

If your answer to Line <111> is yes, then you are required to file a progress report, on line <112> delineating the status of your company's existing § 54.202(a) "5 year plan" on file with the FCC, as it relates to your provision of voice telephony service.

- <112> Attach Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan or, in subsequent years, your annual progress report filed pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(1). If your company is a CETC which only receives frozen support, your progress report is only required to address voice telephony service.

613001ak5yrplan112.pdf

Name of Attached Document

Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached documents(s), on line 112, contains a progress report on its five-year service quality improvement plan pursuant to § 54.202(a). The information shall be submitted at the wire center level or census block as appropriate.

- <113> Maps detailing progress towards meeting plan targets
- <114> Report how much universal service (USF) support was received
- <115> How (USF) was used to improve service quality
- <116> How (USF) was used to improve service coverage
- <117> How (USF) was used to improve service capacity
- <118> Provide an explanation of network improvement targets not met in the prior calendar year.




**(200) Service Outage Reporting (Voice)  
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481  
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819  
July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	613001
<015>	Study Area Name	ARCTIC SLOPE TEL
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Clover McNeil
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	9075642680 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	clover@astac.net

[illegible]



[illegible]

FCC Form 481  
OMB Control No. 3060-0086; FOIA Control No. 3060-0119  
July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	613601
<015>	Study Area Name	ASOTIC SLOVE TSD
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Clayton McNeill
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	9075671890 ext-
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	cllover@astad.net

[illegible]

<010>	Study Area Code	613001
<015>	Study Area Name	ARCTIC SLOPE TEL
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Clover McNeil
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	9075642680 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	clover@astac.net
<810>	Reporting Carrier	Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc.
<811>	Holding Company	Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc.
<812>	Operating Company	Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc.

-- See attached worksheet --



**<910> Tribal Land(s) on which ETC Serves**

**<920> Tribal Government Engagement Obligation**

Name of Attached Document

**<929> Compliance with Tribal Business and Licensing requirements.**

[illegible]

**(100) No Terrestrial Backhaul Reporting  
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	613001
<015>	Study Area Name	ARCTIC SLOPE TEL
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Clover McNeil
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	9075642680 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	clover@astac.net

<1120> Please check this box to confirm no terrestrial backhaul options exist within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(G) ☒

<1130> Please check this box to confirm the reporting carrier offers broadband service of at least 1 Mbps downstream and 256 kbps upstream within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(G) ☒

## (1200) Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers

Lifeline

Data Collection Form

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	613001
<015>	Study Area Name	ARCTIC SLOPE TEL
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Clover McNeil
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	9075642680 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	clover@astac.net

613001akLLT&amp;C1210.pdf

&lt;1210&gt; Terms &amp; Conditions of Voice Telephony Lifeline Plans

Name of Attached Document

&lt;1220&gt; Link to Public Website

HTTP [www.astac.net](http://www.astac.net)

"Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 1210, or the website listed, on line 1220, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.422(a)(2) annual reporting for ETCs receiving low-income support, carriers must annually report:

&lt;1221&gt; Information describing the terms and conditions of any voice telephony service plans offered to Lifeline subscribers,



&lt;1222&gt; Details on the number of minutes provided as part of the plan,



&lt;1223&gt; Additional charges for toll calls, and rates for each such plan.





**(2000) Price Cap Carrier Additional Documentation**

FCC Form 481

**Data Collection Form**

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

*Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers*

July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	613001
<015>	Study Area Name	ARCTIC SLOPE TEL
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Clover McNeil
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	9075642680 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	clover@astac.net

CHECK the boxes below to note compliance as a recipient of Incremental Connect America Phase I support, frozen High Cost support, High Cost support to offset access charge reductions, and Connect America Phase II support as set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(b),(c),(d),(e) the information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

**Incremental Connect America Phase I reporting**

- <2010> 2nd Year Certification {47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)} ☐
- <2011> 3rd Year Certification {47 CFR § 54.313(b)(2)} ☐

**Price Cap Carrier Receiving Frozen Support Certification {47 CFR § 54.312(a)}**

- <2012> 2013 Frozen Support Certification ☐
- <2013> 2014 Frozen Support Certification ☐
- <2014> 2015 Frozen Support Certification ☐
- <2015> 2016 and future Frozen Support Certification ☐

**Price Cap Carrier Connect America ICC Support {47 CFR § 54.313(d)}**

- <2016> Certification Support Used to Build Broadband ☐

**Connect America Phase II Reporting {47 CFR § 54.313(e)}**

- <2017> 3rd year Broadband Service Certification ☐
- <2018> 5th year Broadband Service Certification ☐
- <2019> Interim Progress Certification ☐
- <2020> Please check the box to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 2021, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313 (e)(3)(ii), as a recipient of CAF Phase II support shall provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year. ☐

- <2021> Interim Progress Community Anchor Institutions

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

(3000) Rate Of Return Carrier Additional Documentation  
Data Collection Form

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	613001
<015>	Study Area Name	ARCTIC SLOPE TEL
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Clover McNeil
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	9075642680 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	clover@astac.net

CHECK the boxes below to note compliance on its five year service quality plan (pursuant to 47 CFR § 54.202(a)) and, for privately held carriers, ensuring compliance with the financial reporting requirements set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2). I further certify that the information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

- (3010) Progress Report on 5 Year Plan  
Milestone Certification (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(i))

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

- (3011) Please check this box to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 3012 contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313 (f)(1)(ii), the carrier shall provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.

☐

- (3012) Community Anchor Institutions (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(iii))

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

- (3013) Is your company a Privately Held ROR Carrier (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2))

- (3014) If yes, does your company file the RUS annual report

(Yes/No) ☒ ☒  
(Yes/No) ☒ ☒

Please check these boxes to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 3017, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2) compliance requires:

- (3015) Electronic copy of their annual RUS reports (Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers)

☐

- (3016) Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows

☐

- (3017) If the response is yes on line 3014, attach your company's RUS annual report and all required documentation

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

- (3018) If the response is no on line 3014, is your company audited?

(Yes/No) ☒ ☒

If the response is yes on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission, on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains:

- (3019) Either a copy of their audited financial statement; or (2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications

☒

- (3020) Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows

☒

- (3021) Management letter issued by the independent certified public accountant that performed the company's financial audit.

☒

If the response is no on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission, on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains:

- (3022) Copy of their financial statement which has been subject to review by an independent certified public accountant; or (2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers,

☐

- (3023) Underlying information subjected to a review by an independent certified public accountant

☐

- (3024) Underlying information subjected to an officer certification.

☐

- (3025) Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows

613001akROR3026.pdf

- (3026) Attach the worksheet listing required information

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

<b>Certification - Reporting Carrier Data Collection Form</b>	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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<010> Study Area Code	613001
<015> Study Area Name	ARCTIC SLOPE TEL
<020> Program Year	2015
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Clover McNeil
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	9075642680 ext.
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	clover@astac.net

**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF THE REPORTING CARRIER IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTING ON ITS OWN BEHALF:**

<b>Certification of Officer as to the Accuracy of the Data Reported for the Annual Reporting for CAF or LI Recipients</b>	
I certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual reporting requirements for universal service support recipients; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported on this form and in any attachments is accurate.	
Name of Reporting Carrier: ARCTIC SLOPE TEL	
Signature of Authorized Officer: CERTIFIED ONLINE	Date 06/23/2014
Printed name of Authorized Officer: Clover McNeil	
Title or position of Authorized Officer: CFO	
Telephone number of Authorized Officer: 9075642680 ext.	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: 613001	Filing Due Date for this form: 07/01/2014
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	



Certification - Agent / Carrier Data Collection Form		FCC Form 403 OMB Control No. 3000-0038/CMB Control No. 3050-0819 July 2013
<010> Study Area Code	613001	
<015> Study Area Name	ARCTIC SLOPE TEL	
<020> Program Year	2015	
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Clover McNeil	
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	9075642680 ext.	
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	clover@astsc.net	

**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF AN AGENT IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE CARRIER'S BEHALF:**

Certification of Officer to Authorize an Agent to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier	
I certify that (Name of Agent) _____ is authorized to submit the information reported on behalf of the reporting carrier. I also certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual data reporting requirements provided to the authorized agent; and, to the best of my knowledge, the reports and data provided to the authorized agent is accurate.	
Name of Authorized Agent: _____	
Name of Reporting Carrier: _____	
Signature of Authorized Officer: _____	Date: _____
Printed name of Authorized Officer: _____	
Title or position of Authorized Officer: _____	
Telephone number of Authorized Officer: _____	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: _____	Filing Due Date for this form: _____
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE AUTHORIZED AGENT:**

Certification of Agent Authorized to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier	
As agent for the reporting carrier, I am authorized to submit the annual reports for universal service support recipients on behalf of the reporting carrier; I have provided the data reported herein based on data provided by the reporting carrier; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported herein is accurate.	
Name of Reporting Carrier: _____	
Name of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: _____	
Signature of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: _____	Date: _____
Printed name of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: _____	
Title or position of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: _____	
Telephone number of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: _____	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: _____	Filing Due Date for this form: _____
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

## Attachments

<7D1>	Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date	1/1/2014
<7D2>	Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge	

[illegible]



2013 Supplemental Public Hearings  
 Data Collection Form

FEC Form 481  
 OMB Control No.: 3060-0936/OMB Control No.: 3060-0819  
 July 2013

FCC Form 481  
OMB Control No. 3060-0956/OMB Control No. 3080-0819  
July 2013

OMB Control No. 3060-0936/OMB Control No. 3050-0819  
July 2013

July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	613001
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<015>	Study Area Name	ARCTIC SLOPE TEL
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<020>	Program Year	2013
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<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Clover McNeil
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<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	9075642660 ext.
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<038> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> clovermated.net

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<010>	Study Area Code	613001
<015>	Study Area Name	ARCTIC SLOPE TEL
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Clover McNeil
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	9075142600 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	clover@netao.net
<810>	Reporting Carrier	Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc.
<811>	Holding Company	Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc.
<812>	Operating Company	Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc.

[illegible]



**Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc.**

**FIVE YEAR SERVICE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

**July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014**

This 5 year improvement plan is a section of the Company's 2014 Annual Report. It is in compliance with § 54.313(a)(1) adopted in the FCC's USF/ICC Transformation Order (11-161). This document also incorporates further clarifications identified in subsequent Reconsideration Orders, as applicable, in effect prior to the filing of the Annual Report.

Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc. ("ASTAC") has carefully developed its improvement plan, concentrating upon the delivery and continuation of a robust network which over time will, at a minimum, meet the federally required voice and broadband connectivity as stipulated by regulatory rule. ASTAC's improvement plan also contemplates and meets the requirements set forth in the Alaska State Telecommunications Modernization Plan as defined by Alaska Administrative Code (ACC 53.700).

ASTAC advises that this improvement plan has been carefully crafted, matching measured network deployment, improvement and quality service levels with known financial implications of the Transformation Order upon the Company's support cash-flows. The uncertainty of such cash flows being received in the outer-years as a result of current and potential regulatory action on rural rate-of-return carriers has resulted in the Company taking a balanced yet realistic approach.

The environment in which the Company operates remains dynamic, not static. As a result, ASTAC reserves the opportunity to modify its plan in response to further regulatory decisions as they are adopted, and their implication upon the Company's financial viability in providing the required services and service level quality becomes known.

The Company will re-evaluate this plan on an annual basis. Action, however, may also be taken abruptly on the presented plan for both current and outer years in the event of evolving regulatory conditions and/or changes in technology (vendor)-driven support. All adjustments to the improvement plan in this document will be reflected and explained in subsequent annual reports.



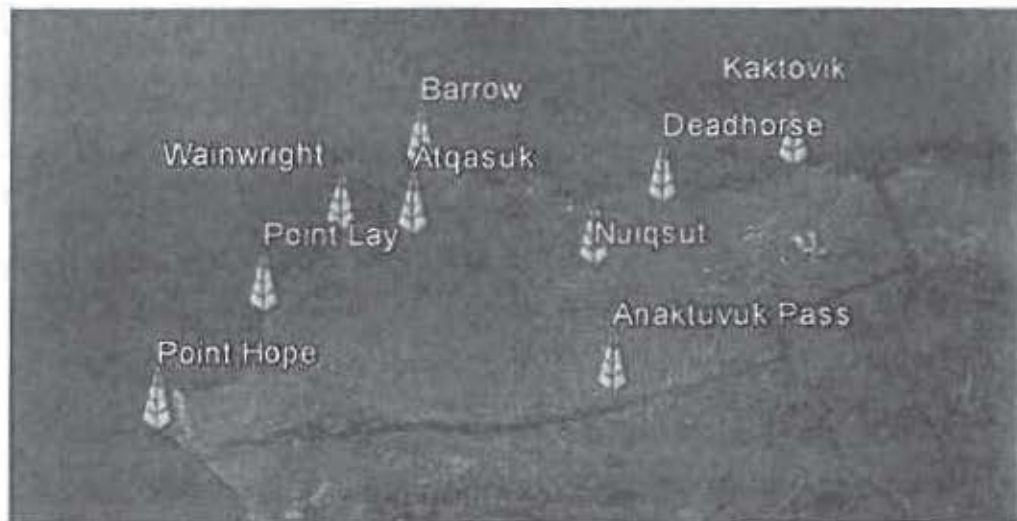
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FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION**

**Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc.**

**FIVE YEAR SERVICE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

**OVERVIEW**

Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc. ("ASTAC"), as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC), currently provides Universal Service supported services across Alaska's North Slope to 9 exchanges, and for which there are 9 wire centers.



Consistent with Commission requirements, this Service Quality Improvement Plan addresses only ASTAC's regulated eligible telecommunications carrier operations.<sup>1</sup> A detailed description of ASTAC's plans for the provision of the supported services in the five-year period starting with January 2015 is provided herein.

Per ASTAC's audited financial statements, during the calendar year 2013, ASTAC received a total of \$ [REDACTED] (as of 12/31/13) in USF support funds. The breakdown of the funding for the year was:

- \$ [REDACTED] High Cost Loop Support,
- \$ [REDACTED] Local Switching Support

<sup>1</sup>Per 47 C.F.R. § 54.314, federal USF support, "will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended." If investments or expenses are for service areas larger than the supported service areas, then allocations of the expenditures are required.

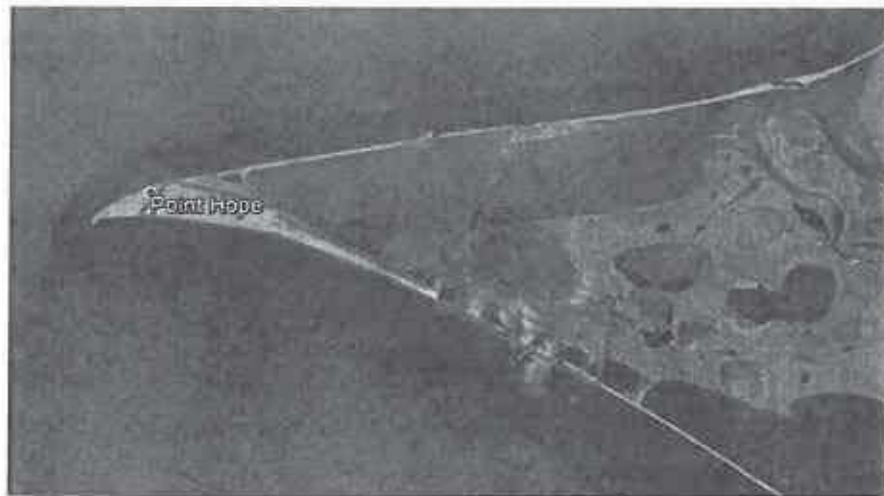
**REDACTED  
FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION**

- \$ [REDACTED] Connect America Fund-Intercarrier Compensation Support
- \$ [REDACTED] Interstate Common Line Support

All funds were used in 2013 to both: 1) maintain, upgrade and improve the Company's network and, 2) cover its operating expenses and debt commitments as necessary to permit it to offer a high level of service for both voice and broadband throughout its service area.

## **ASTAC EXCHANGES**

### **Point Hope**



Tikigaq, or Point Hope is located on the western coast of the Arctic Slope Region. Scientific studies confirm Tikigaq is the longest continually inhabited area in North America. The Iñupiat came to this area to hunt Bowhead whales some 2,500 years ago.

Ipiutak, is the prehistoric site that was inhabited around 600 B.C. Ipiutak and the surrounding archaeological district are on the National Register of Historic Places. In addition to the prehistoric village sites, there are old burial grounds in the area including a cemetery marked by large whale bones standing on end. Erosion and a threat of storm flooding from the Chukchi Sea led to its relocation to higher ground in the mid-1970s. Transportation to Point Hope is by scheduled and chartered aircraft from Kotzebue and Barrow.

Point Hope is home to 674 Alaskans in 221 housing units, making it the largest village outside of Barrow. 52% of the population is male; 48% are female. Alaska Natives make up 90% of the population followed by 6% Caucasian and 4% two races.

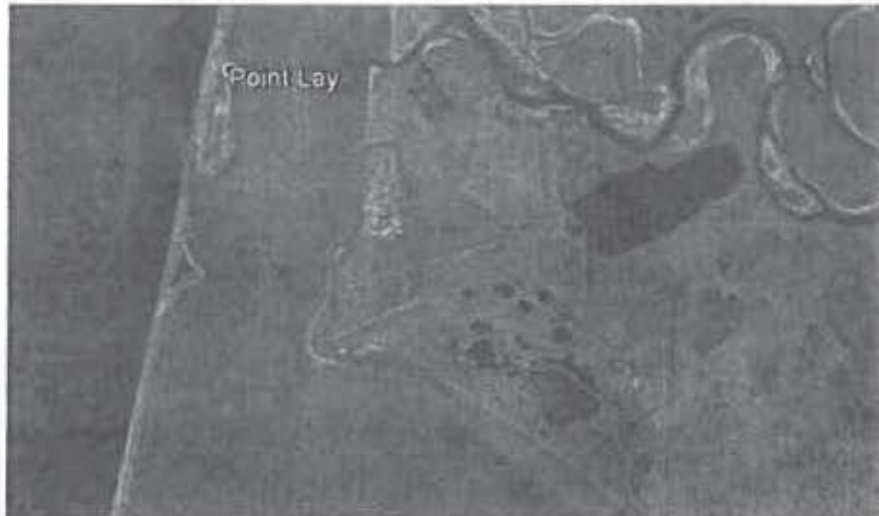
ADSL2+ is available to every home and business in Point Hope, with local transport capable of asynchronous speeds of 20 Mbps down and 1 Mbps up. However, due to the remote insular location of Point Hope, the middle mile transport is satellite. As has been extensively documented, available satellite capacity for the Arctic Region of Alaska is limited and its cost exorbitant, effectively making comparable

**REDACTED  
FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION**

service at a comparable cost to more urban areas of Alaska unattainable. Today, ASTAC offers DSL speeds ranging from 256/128kbps to 768/256kbps in all the satellite fed markets. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Until there is an economical alternative transport means to satellite, or sufficient high cost funding for satellite middle mile, the residents of Point Hope will not realize the benefits of true broadband.

**Point Lay**



Point Lay is located on the Chukchi Sea coast, protected from the ocean by the Kasugluk Lagoon. It is 152 miles southwest of Barrow. Kali, the Iñupiat name for the village, means "mound" and refers to the elevated mound on which it stands. It is probably the last remaining village of the Kuukpaagruk people. The Kalimint traditionally hunt beluga whales and is similar to the Bowhead whaling culture in other North Slope villages. After 72 years the village of Point Lay was able to celebrate the successful harvest of a bowhead whale. In 2009 Atkaan Crew, captained by Julius Rexford shared this harvest with the community during Nalukataq, which marks the end of a successful spring whaling season. Point Lay lies within close proximity of the Northern Alaska Coal Province, which is believed to contain one-ninth of the world's known coal reserves, and one-third of the U.S. reserves. For recreation, residents enjoy snowmobiling, hunting, fishing and trapping, native arts and crafts. Transportation to Point Lay is by scheduled and chartered aircraft from Kotzebue and Barrow.

Point Lay is home to 189 persons in 72 homes, 56% of which are male and 44% are female. 88% of the population are Alaska Natives, 10% are Caucasian and 2% are two or more races.

ADSL2+ is available to every home and business in Point Lay, with local transport capable of asynchronous speeds of 20 Mbps down and 1 Mbps up. However, due to the remote insular location of Point Lay, the middle mile transport is satellite. As has been extensively documented, available satellite capacity for the Arctic Region of Alaska is limited and its cost exorbitant, effectively making comparable service at a comparable cost to more urban areas of Alaska unattainable. Today, ASTAC offers DSL speeds ranging from 256/128kbps to 768/256kbps in all the satellite fed markets. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Until



there is an economical alternative transport means to satellite, or sufficient high cost funding for satellite middle mile, the residents of Point Lay will not realize the benefits of true broadband.

### **Wainwright**



Wainwright is located along a wave-eroded coastal bluff on the west side of a narrow peninsula, which separates Wainwright Inlet from the Chukchi Sea. British Captain F.W. Beechey named the inlet in 1826 for his officer, Lt. John Wainwright. The present village was established in 1904 when the Alaska Native Service built a school there.

In early summer, the community gathers for Nalukataq, the feast after a successful whaling season. At this festival and on other occasions, villagers perform traditional Iñupiat dances. Other activities include boating, snowmobiling, hunting, camping, smelt fishing in the spring, and native arts and crafts. Transportation is provided by scheduled and chartered aircraft out of Barrow.

Wainwright is home to 556 Americans in 179 households, with 54% being male and 46% being female. 90% of the population is Alaska Native, 8% are Caucasian and 2% are two or more races.

ADSL2+ is available to every home and business in Wainwright, with local transport capable of asynchronous speeds of 20 Mbps down and 1 Mbps up. However, due to the remote insular location of Wainwright, the middle mile transport is satellite. As has been extensively documented, available satellite capacity for the Arctic Region of Alaska is limited and its cost exorbitant, effectively making comparable service at a comparable cost to more urban areas of Alaska unattainable. Today, ASTAC offers DSL speeds ranging from 256/128kbps to 768/256kbps in all the satellite fed markets. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Until there is an economical alternative transport means to satellite, or sufficient high cost funding for satellite middle mile, the residents of Wainwright will not realize the benefits of true broadband.

**REDACTED  
FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION**



## Atqasuk



The community of Atqasuk lies on the north flowing Meade River about 60 miles southwest of Barrow. It is part of a region of many historic hunting and fishing camps that are located on the coastal plain along the Meade, Chipp and Ikpiuk Rivers. Atqasuk is one of two inland communities (the other being Anaktuvuk Pass in the Brooks Range mountains.) The subsistence activities of both these communities are more focused on the land and river resources than on coastal and ocean harvests. In addition to harvesting caribou and waterfowl which frequent the region, fishing for grayling, lingcod and several varieties of whitefish help meet the food requirements of the village. The population of Atqasuk is 233 living in 68 housing units, with 58% male and 42% female. Over 92% of the population is Alaska Native, 7% are Caucasian and 1% are two or more races.

ADSL2+ is available to every home and business in Atqasuk, with local transport capable of asynchronous speeds of 20 Mbps down and 1 Mbps up. However, due to the remote insular location of Atqasuk, the middle mile transport is satellite. As has been extensively documented, available satellite capacity for the Arctic Region of Alaska is limited and its cost exorbitant, effectively making comparable service at a comparable cost to more urban areas of Alaska unattainable. Today, ASTAC offers DSL speeds ranging from 256/128kbps to 768/256kbps in all the satellite fed markets. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Until there is an economical alternative transport means to satellite, or sufficient high cost funding for satellite middle mile, the residents of Atqasuk will not realize the benefits of true broadband.

**REDACTED  
FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION**

## Barrow



Barrow is the northernmost community in North America and is commonly referred to as the town at the Top of the World. It serves as the region's hub for air transportation with one of only two airstrips that can accommodate 737 jet service from Anchorage and Fairbanks. Anchor institutions like the North Slope Borough Administration, the North Slope Borough School District, Samuel Simmonds hospital, Arctic Slope Regional Corporation, and post-secondary education (Iñisuk College) and scientific climate research are all present in Barrow. Yet despite its modern conveniences relative to other North Slope communities, Barrow has a rich history dating back 1,200 years. The proper and traditional name for this community is Ukiagvik ('place where the snowy owls are hunted') but a British naval officer named Beechey on a surveying expedition in 1825-26 named the place after Sir John Barrow of the British Admiralty and the name on subsequent printed maps prevailed. A few miles to the northeast lies a low peninsula named Point Barrow which marks the dividing line between the Chukchi and Beaufort Seas, both part of the Arctic Ocean. As a coastal community, subsistence activities focus on whaling, marine mammals, waterfowl and caribou. Barrow is able to receive barged supplies for a brief period of time in the summer; otherwise air transport fills in the supplies gap.

ASTAC purchased Barrow from GTE in 2000 and high cost support for Barrow is de minimis due to Parent Trap rules.

The population of Barrow is 4,212 with 51% being male and 49% being female. 61% of the population is Alaska Native, 17% is Caucasian, 9% are of 2 or more races, over 9% are Asian and approximately 4% are Pacific Islander. There are 1,554 housing units in Barrow, 1,280 of which were occupied per the 2010 Census.

ADSL2+ is available to every home and business in Barrow, with local transport capable of asynchronous speeds of 20 Mbps down and 1 Mbps up with two exceptions that are going to be addressed in the five year plan. However, due to the remote insular location of Barrow, the middle mile transport is satellite.

As has been extensively documented, available satellite capacity for the Arctic Region of Alaska is limited and its cost exorbitant, effectively making comparable service at a comparable cost to more urban areas of Alaska unattainable, even with the increased population relative to other ASTAC served communities. Only anchor institutions receiving supported services through e-rate and rural health care can afford to utilize connectivity that reaches true broadband speeds. Until there is an alternative transport means to satellite, or sufficient high cost funding for satellite middle mile, the residents of Barrow will not realize the benefits of true broadband.

### **Deadhorse**



An unincorporated community within the North Slope Borough, Deadhorse is situated near the Beaufort Sea. The town consists mainly of facilities for the workers and companies that operate at the nearby Prudhoe Bay oil fields. Deadhorse is accessible via the Dalton Highway from Fairbanks, 495 mi (797 km) south, or by commercial jet aircraft. The permanent population is variously listed as being between 4 and 50 residents. Temporary residents (employed by various firms with local interests) can range as high as 11,000, but the 2010 Census data shows a population figure of 2,174. Because of the widely varying and transient nature of the workforce, demographic information is unavailable. Facilities in Deadhorse are built entirely on man-made gravel pads and usually consist of pre-fabricated modules shipped to Deadhorse via barge or air cargo.

Sources conflict on the origin of the area's name. The most cited theory appears to be that the area takes its name from a local business prominent in the late 1960s and 1970s, the "Dead Horse Haulers" trucking company. How the trucking company got its name remains in dispute.

Deadhorse is the only terrestrially fed community on the North Slope that is capable of 4/1 Mbps or greater broadband. While the middle mile transport costs out of Deadhorse are a multiple of the same capacity in the Lower 48 states, nonetheless it is critical to the safe exploration and production of oil, and a cost of doing business.



## Nuiqsut



The area around Nuiqsut has been the scene of subsistence food gathering, trading and nomadic contact between coastal and inland Inupiat for centuries. Situated on the banks of the Colville River Delta 136 miles southeast of Barrow, Nuiqsut has boat access to Beaufort Sea and is an excellent place to hunt and fish.

During the early 20th century, Christian missionaries were introduced to the Barrow region. This movement, along with the emergence of healthcare services and schools provided by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, prompted the Inupiat from Nuiqsut to immigrate to Barrow. In 1973, 27 Inupiat families moved back to Nuiqsut from Barrow, and lived in tents braving the elements for over 18 months. In 1974, the Arctic Slope Regional Corporation funded construction of the village. Nuiqsut was incorporated as a second class city in 1975.

The Alpine Oilfield is eight miles from the village of Nuiqsut and provides opportunity to work in that industry. Transportation to Nuiqsut is primarily via scheduled regional aircraft from Barrow, Deadhorse and Fairbanks. For several months each winter, an "ice road" is constructed to deliver supplies to the Alpine field and a spur off this road gives the people of Nuiqsut an opportunity to connect to the Alyeska Pipeline gravel road back to Deadhorse and the terminus of the gravel Dalton Highway which gets them to Fairbanks and the paved road system.

The population of Nuiqsut is 402 people which are 52% male and 48% female. The population is 87% Alaska Native, 10% Caucasian and 3% two or more races. There are 136 housing units in Nuiqsut.

ADSL2+ is available to every home and business in Nuiqsut, with local transport capable of asynchronous speeds of 20 Mbps down and 1 Mbps up. However, due to the remote insular location of Nuiqsut, the middle mile transport is satellite, augmented by a limited capacity terrestrial microwave system operated by ASTAC. Wireless and Internet traffic route over the microwave to Deadhorse. The microwave path has two sites that require remote power and the path itself can be affected by inversions that affect performance. The cost per Mb is virtually the same for satellite and the ASTAC microwave, although there is some performance improvement in terms of latency via the microwave. As has been extensively documented, available satellite capacity for the Arctic Region of Alaska is limited and its cost exorbitant, effectively making comparable service at a comparable cost to more urban areas of Alaska



unattainable. Today, ASTAC offers DSL speeds ranging from 256/128kbps to 768/256kbps in all the satellite fed markets. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Until there is an economical alternative transport means to satellite, or sufficient high cost funding for satellite middle mile, the residents of Nuiqsut will not realize the benefits of true broadband.

### Kaktovik



Just 90 miles from the U.S. and Canadian border, Kaktovik is the easternmost coastal community on the North Slope. It is sited on Barter Island and shares its location with one of the Cold War Distant Early Warning (DEW) sites. The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, comprised of over 20 million acres, borders Kaktovik and extends southward into the Brooks Range. Subsistence activities remain a significant component of the local economy and include whaling, hunting marine mammals, waterfowl, and caribou as well as Dall sheep and fishing for arctic char.

The population of Kaktovik is 239 people with 52% male and 48% female. There are 87 housing units in Kaktovik. 89% of the population are Alaska Natives, 10% are Caucasian and the remaining 1% are two or more races. Transportation to Kaktovik is provided by scheduled regional airlines and air taxi transport from Barrow, Deadhorse and Fairbanks.

ADSL2+ is available to every home and business in Kaktovik, with local transport capable of asynchronous speeds of 20 Mbps down and 1 Mbps up. However, due to the remote insular location of Kaktovik, the middle mile transport is satellite. As has been extensively documented, available satellite capacity for the Arctic Region of Alaska is limited and its cost exorbitant, effectively making comparable service at a comparable cost to more urban areas of Alaska unattainable. Today, ASTAC offers DSL speeds ranging from 256/128kbps to 768/256kbps in all the satellite fed markets. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Until there is an economical alternative transport means to satellite, or sufficient high cost funding for satellite middle mile, the residents of Kaktovik will not realize the benefits of true broadband.

**REDACTED  
FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION**

## Anaktuvuk Pass



The Nunamuit, the inland group of Iñupiat, call Anaktuvuk Pass home. About 250 miles southeast of Barrow, the village is located along the north flowing Anaktuvuk River in the central portion of the Brooks Range. These mountains, running east to west, form the southern boundary of the North Slope Borough. The Iñupiat ancestry in this interior, mountainous region goes back at least 4,000 years and the immediate location around Anaktuvuk Pass has been occupied for about 500 years. The current population of Anaktuvuk Pass is 324 persons of which 56% are male and 44% are female. Over 83% of the population is Alaska Native with 2 or more races comprising 10% of the population and 7% are Caucasian.

There is an ancient relationship between the caribou, the Nunamuit and the mountain country. The pass itself is a historical caribou migration route. The village economy is largely based on subsistence hunting of caribou. Transportation to Anaktuvuk Pass is available via scheduled and chartered flights from Fairbanks or Barrow. Cargo arrives by air transport. Anaktuvuk Pass is over 60 miles from the nearest road, which is the Dalton Highway.

ADSL2+ is available to every home and business in Anaktuvuk Pass, with local transport capable of asynchronous speeds of 20 Mbps down and 1 Mbps up. However, due to the remote insular location of Anaktuvuk Pass, the middle mile transport is satellite. As has been extensively documented, available satellite capacity for the Arctic Region of Alaska is limited and its cost exorbitant, effectively making comparable service at a comparable cost to more urban areas of Alaska unattainable. Today, ASTAC offers DSL speeds ranging from 256/128kbps to 768/256kbps in all the satellite fed markets. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Until there is an economical alternative transport means to satellite, or sufficient high cost funding for satellite middle mile, the residents of Anaktuvuk Pass will not realize the benefits of true broadband.

**REDACTED  
FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION**

## **Anchor Institutions**

In 2013, ASTAC provided voice and/or high speed broadband to the following “anchor” institutions:

- Village Schools and Libraries
- Village Clinics
- Barrow Hospital
- Public Safety
- Ilisagvik College
- North Slope Borough
- State Of Alaska

No anchor institutions who desire service remain unfulfilled. However, ASTAC continues to monitor customer demand and technological innovation, planning to size its network in anticipation of requests and demand for higher speed broadband needs.

## **Arctic Construction and Maintenance Challenges on the North Slope**

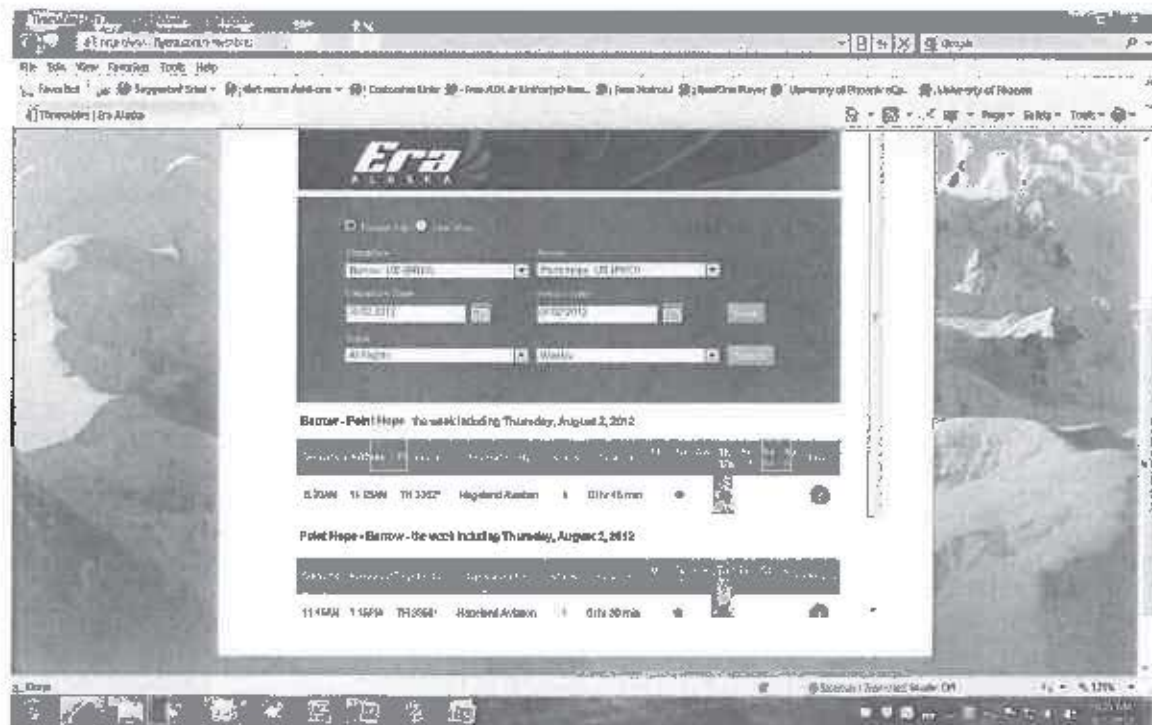
Building and maintaining outside plant in the Arctic presents many challenges that are found nowhere else in the America. It is hard to imagine a fair comparison to similarly situated companies outside the few that border ASTAC on its southern boundary. Our lack of roads, extreme cold, blizzards, widely dispersed insular communities and a very short construction season all drive up the cost to bring telecommunications services to the Inupiat people of the North Slope.

- The lack of roads<sup>2</sup> means everything from personnel to equipment has to be flown or delivered by air cargo. As you can see by the following schedules, flights from our hubs in Barrow and Deadhorse are protracted, with limited opportunity to come and go. There are no direct flights from Deadhorse to Anaktuvuk Pass. Our choices are to either charter for ~\$3000 per trip or fly to Fairbanks, overnight and switch carriers to get into Anaktuvuk Pass. The return path is similar and there is little difference in cost when you consider hotel, per diem and non-productive labor during travel.

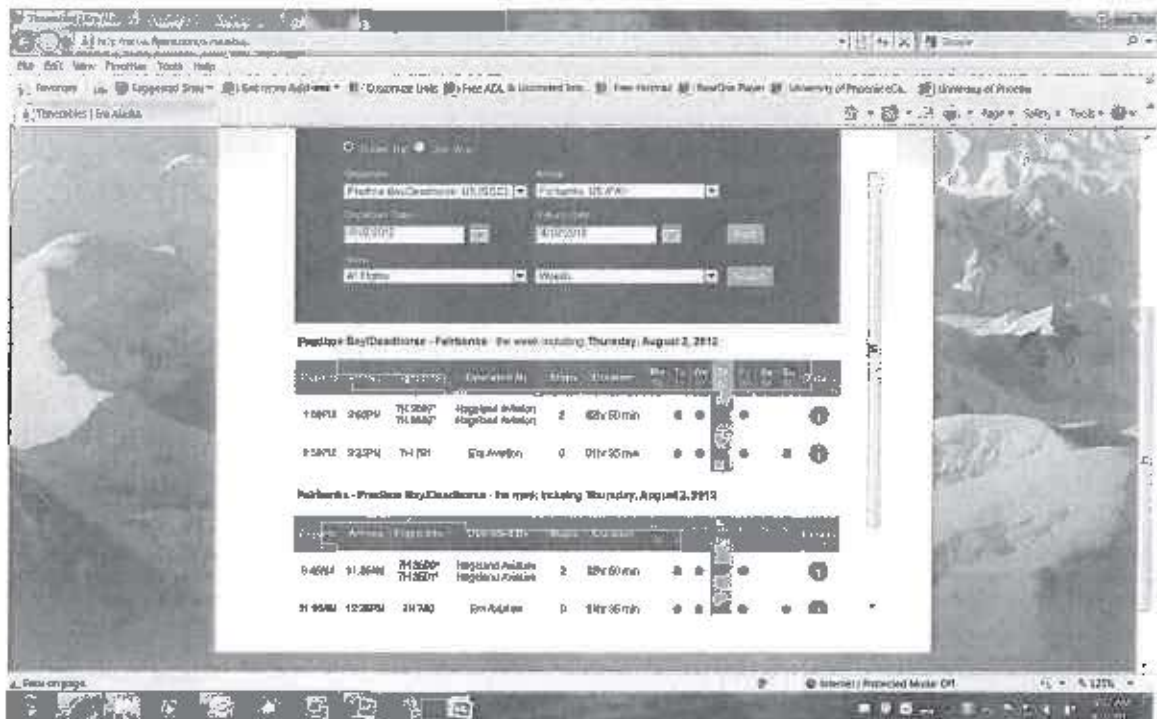
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<sup>2</sup> Deadhorse is the only exchange that has terrestrial transportation via MW and fiber following the Dalton Highway.






Providing service to Point Hope from Barrow involves an hour and forty five minute plane ride, one way, with twice weekly flights.





Anaktuvuk Pass Schedules and Fares



**WRIGHT AIR SERVICE**  
**ANAKTUVUK PASS SCHEDULES AND FARES**

Fairbanks International  
 Airport East Ramp  
 (907) 474-0502

See Also: [\[Anaktuvuk Pass to Fairbanks\]](#) [\[Anaktuvuk Pass to Barrow\]](#) [\[Anaktuvuk Pass to Cape Roy\]](#) [\[Anaktuvuk Pass to AKHobart\]](#)

**Fairbanks To Anaktuvuk Pass**

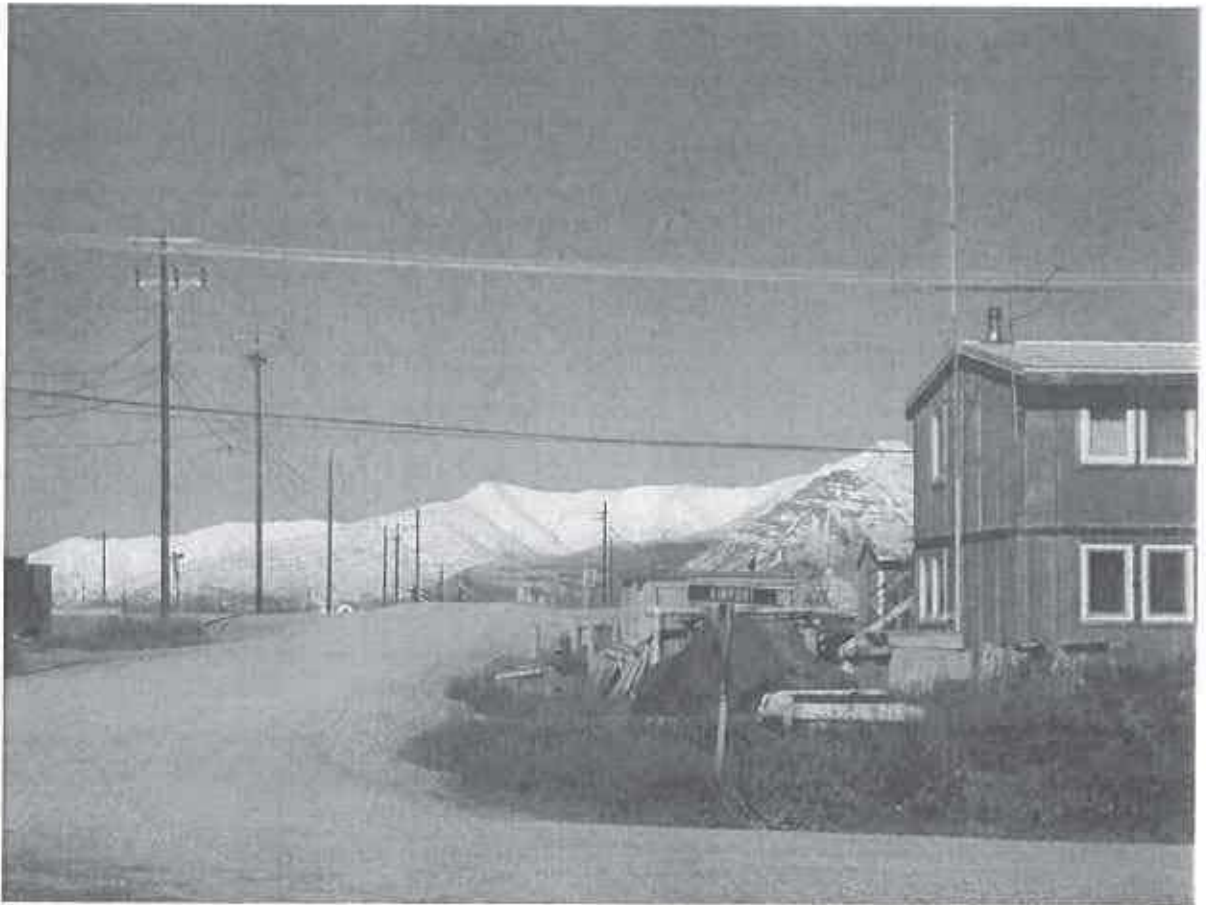
Flight	Depart	Arrive	Frequency	One Way Fare Adult	Round Trip Adult	One Way Fare Child	Round Trip Child	Excess Baggage/L.B.
300	8:15 a.m.	9:50 a.m.	M-F	\$180.00	\$360.00	\$140.00	\$280.00	.85
320	1:00 p.m.	2:35 p.m.	M-F	\$180.00	\$360.00	\$140.00	\$280.00	.85
370	10:15 a.m.	12:30 a.m.	Sat.-Sun.	\$180.00	\$360.00	\$140.00	\$280.00	.85

**Anaktuvuk Pass to Fairbanks [\[Link to Barrow\]](#)**

Flight	Depart	Arrive	Frequency	One Way Fare Adult	Round Trip Adult	One Way Fare Child	Round Trip Child	Excess Baggage/L.B.
301	10:10 a.m.	11:45 a.m.	M-F	\$180.00	\$360.00	\$140.00	\$280.00	.85
321	2:45 p.m.	4:20 p.m.	M-F	\$180.00	\$360.00	\$140.00	\$280.00	.85
371	12:35 p.m.	2:40 p.m.	Sat.-Sun.	\$180.00	\$360.00	\$140.00	\$280.00	.85

Done Internet | Protected Mode: Off 4.125%

There are no direct flights to Anaktuvuk Pass from Barrow unless we charter the entire plane.



Anaktuvuk Pass in July. Summer construction season is 75-90 days.



Construction in the Arctic.

Extreme cold and blizzards hamper operations, making the simplest tasks like getting to work an issue. Extreme cold is our reality and we mitigate cold injuries by investing in the proper clothing, equipment and safety training and standards, but not without some corresponding decrease in work output during inclement periods.



ASTAC technician vehicles at camp the morning after a blizzard (above) and what they found at our central office after digging out at camp (below).



Operating expenses for maintenance of existing facilities are higher than the norm because everything is either flown in or barged over brief summer. As examples, gasoline can exceed \$9 per gallon in some of our exchanges where it is flown in. Electricity is \$.29 per kilowatt hour, almost three times the national average of \$.1029 per kilowatt hour.<sup>3</sup>



Extreme cold, darkness and stormy weather are our operating realities.

---

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.eia.gov/electricity/monthly/epm\\_table\\_grapher.cfm?t=epmt\\_5\\_03](http://www.eia.gov/electricity/monthly/epm_table_grapher.cfm?t=epmt_5_03)



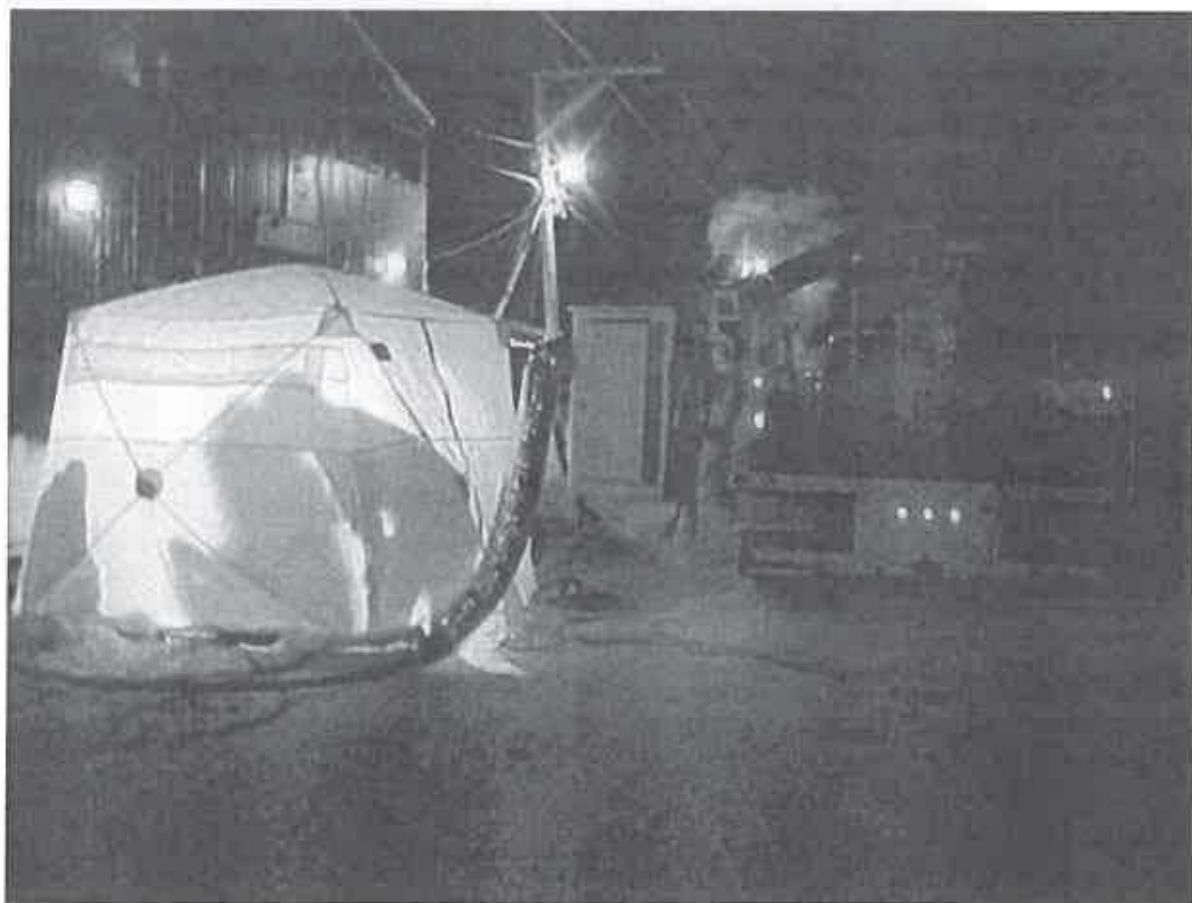
Permafrost exists year round and impedes trenching, requiring extensive replacement of teeth on the Ditch Witch saw just to plow a short section of cable.



“Super Sucker” tankers (at \$345 each per hour) are used to remove material from co-location trenches to protect other utilities’ facilities (e.g. gas and power). An average trenching job may require two tankers for the length of the project. Because of the brief construction period and the cost to mobilize and safeguard the open trench at the end of each shift, technicians generally work twelve or more hours per day.



Cold and darkness are a constant for much of the year.



Even with the coming of spring and the return of the sun, winter's challenges linger.



After months of total darkness, "spring" wind storms can damage facilities and close roads.



Alaska is unique; the North Slope is extreme!

**REDACTED  
FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION**

**IMPROVEMENT PLANS BY YEAR (2015-2019 inclusive)**

Summary descriptions in accordance Part 54.202(a)(1)(ii) and Part 54.313(a)(1) by year and by wire center are presented in the paragraphs below and present network improvements planned for the next five years. Detailed expenditures on a wire center basis are contained in the attached Excel worksheets. Area and population estimates impacted by the improvements are identified in the attached worksheets as well as in the village narratives above. Costs are broken out by voice and broadband service.

- Network improvement expenditures identify the cost to provide those services supported by the universal service funding mechanisms. When a project involves expenditures for both regulated and non-regulated services, the non-regulated investment costs have been removed. The Company estimates non-regulated costs using the appropriate allocation rules. Details of those costs are retained by the Company in accordance with Commission Records Retentions rules and available for inspection.
- Costs for individual projects involving multiple wire centers are broken out by wire center on a ratio of "population served" basis if a specific dollar amount is unavailable.
- Costs are reported only for those service areas in which the Company is authorized to receive USF funding. Costs incurred outside the authorized area, if any, are excluded.

Due to the current uncertainty of the amounts of support funds the company may receive in future years, ASTAC advises the Commission that the deployment of specific network improvement projects may be modified, and the meeting of projected service goals muted, to accommodate the actual amount of support that will be received.



Based on these assumptions, ASTAC anticipates utilizing significant contract labor to complete the following improvement plan; but does expect augmentation of sales, customer care, finance, and installation/network operations staff to support subscriber growth. Generally speaking, the ASTAC network administration and monitoring capabilities as well as billing and back office systems are scalable to meet the future demands the following improvement plan presents.



**REDACTED  
FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION**

2015

[REDACTED]

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FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION**

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[REDACTED]

2017

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**REDACTED  
FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION**

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2018

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**REDACTED  
FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION**

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**2019**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

**REDACTED  
FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION**

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[illegible]

## Notes

24

**REDACTED  
FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION**

**NETWORK IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS**  
**AS OF 2014 ANNUAL REPORT SUBMISSION - JULY 1, 2014**

[illegible]

## NOTES

2016 TOTAL PROJECTS

v2

**REDACTED  
FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION**



[illegible]

NOTES

10

NOTES

REDACTED  
FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

## AS OF 2024 ANNUAL REPORT SUBMISSION - JULY 1, 2024

NOTES.

3



#### **54.313(a)(5) Satisfaction of Consumer Protection and Service Quality Standards**

##### **Consumer Protection**

###### Voice and Broadband

Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc. complies with the requirements of 47 CFR Part 64 Subpart U, Customer Proprietary Network Information and the Federal Trade Commission Red Flag rules to prevent identity theft. A manual for each of those programs is in place and is part of the employees' handbook. Employee training is conducted annually and new hires are instructed on the programs as required by their job functions. This applies to all lines of business (voice, broadband, wireless and lifeline).

##### **Service Quality Standards**

###### Voice

Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc. complies with the service standards of the State of Alaska promulgated in Alaska Statutes, Title 3 Commerce, Community, and Economic Development Part 7 Regulatory Commission of Alaska, 3 AAC 52.200-3, AAC 52.340, Telephone Utilities and Alaska Administrative Code 3 AAC 53.700 State Telecommunications Modernization. This applies to all lines of business (voice, broadband, wireless and lifeline).

###### Broadband

Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc. follows the service standards noted in NECA Tariff #5 and is committed to provide the highest service to its broadband customers.



### **Description of ability to function in emergency conditions**

In 7 of our village locations (Point Hope, Point Lay, Wainwright, Atkasuk, Nuiqsut, Kaktovik and Anaktuvuk Pass) we have fully redundant Redcom local exchange switches. The central offices that these switches are installed in are equipped with back up batteries designed to support an 8 hour power disruption. In addition, each location has a standby generator that will come on line automatically in the event of the loss of commercial power. These generators will run at least two weeks without refueling. In addition there is fuel readily available in all of the locations that we operate with standby generators.

In our two largest exchanges, Barrow and Deadhorse we have fully redundant DMS 10 local exchange switches. The central offices these switches are installed in are equipped with back up batteries to support an 8 hour power disruption. In addition, each location has a standby generator that will come on line automatically in the event of loss of commercial power.

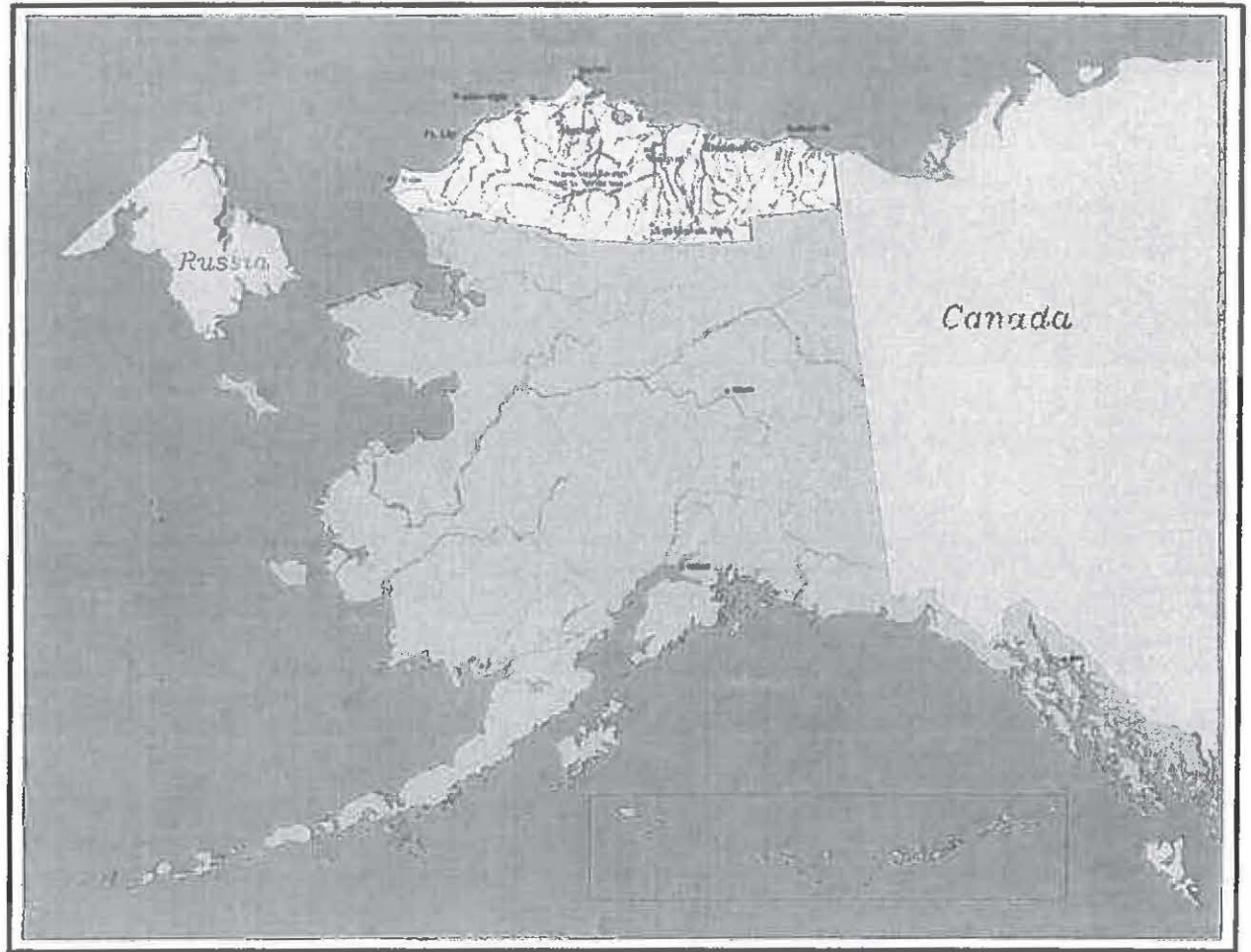
In all locations we work with the two long distance carriers to reroute traffic as required to recover from network outages or traffic spikes.

**Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc.**

**Certification of Tribal Engagement**

**For the Year Ending December 31, 2013**

**Service Area Description:** Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc. (ASTAC) serves the North Slope Region of Alaska. Our service area encompasses over 89,000 square miles and has seven traditional Native villages, the City of Barrow and the oilfields of Prudhoe Bay scattered across that expanse. With the exception of Prudhoe Bay, which is built out from the terminus of the Dalton Highway, all other villages can only be reached year round by aircraft.



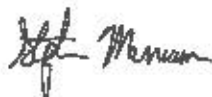
**Tribal Entities:** There are ten federally recognized Tribal Entities within ASTAC's serving area. Each of the seven villages and Barrow has a Native Village organization. Arctic Slope Native Association (ASNA) is the Tribal Entity that manages the Samuel Simmonds Memorial Hospital in Barrow and the Inupiat Communities of the Arctic Slope (ICAS) serves as an "umbrella" government for eight remote Inupiat villages known as the Inupiat "community" spread out along the Arctic Ocean and in the interior, just above the Arctic Circle.

**The Process:** Following the guidelines in DA 12-1165, ASTAC's Executive Leadership Team made multiple attempts to coordinate telephonic meetings to plan for the Tribal Engagement requirement. Tribal leadership points of contact were updated to reflect current information (Tab 1). A cover letter was created to explain the new process and asking for the Tribal Entity's cooperation in meeting our Tribal Engagement obligations. The cover letter borrowed heavily from DA 12-1165. The cover letter was attached to a Tribal Pre-meeting questionnaire which also extracted the questions from DA 12-1165 for Native leaders to consider prior to the telephonic engagement meeting. These two documents were sent on August 28, 2013. An example of the cover letter and a blank Tribal Pre-meeting Questionnaire can be found at (Tab 2).

The cover letter and pre-meeting questionnaire did not elicit a response from any of the Tribal entities. The next step in the process was to do a second mailing on November 1, 2013 with a cover letter by Charlie Carpenter reintroducing what we were trying to achieve, with the original cover letter and the Tribal Pre-meeting Questionnaire as attachments, an example of which can be found at (Tab 3). In this mailing, Charlie Carpenter, Chief of Network Operations again requested a telephonic meeting. When he didn't receive any response, he followed that up with telephonic contacts with the Tribal Leadership. Telephonic logs for each Tribal Entity can be found at (Tab 4).

Following multiple attempts to engage Tribal Leadership from August through November 2013, we were successful in connecting with 50% (five) of the ten Tribal entities. A recurring theme that was expressed in 2012 and repeated in 2013 was the appropriateness of using the ASTAC elected Board member as a representative of many of the Tribal entities, since the Board member is also a member of the Tribal entity, has received telecom specific training, and sets the direction for the Cooperative based on the will of the people who elect them. We received a written request to do so from the Native Village of Barrow and verbal authorization from the Native Villages of Kaktovik, Nuiqsut, Point Hope, and Anaktuvuk Pass (Tab 5).

I certify that the above description of ASTAC's Tribal Engagement is a fair and accurate documentation of our efforts and that a copy of this certification and all corresponding Tabs have been provided in electronic form to our Tribal entities.



March 11, 2014

Stephen L. Merriam, CEO

Date



Tab 1

## 2013 Tribal Leadership Roster

ICAS-Barrow

Doreen Lampe, CEO

ASNA

Marie Carroll, Director

### Native Village Tribal Council-Presidents

Thomas Olermaun	Barrow
Edward Rexford Sr.	Kaktovik
Howard Patkotak	Wainwright
Margaret Pardue	Nulqist
Jack Schaffer	Pt. Hope
Jimmy Nayukok	Atkasuk
Pres. Village Council	Anaktuvuk Pass individual stepped down, no one at this time
Willard Neakok	Pt. Lay

Tab 2



4300 B Street, Suite 501  
Anchorage, AK 99503

Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc.

907 563 3989  
1 800 478 6409  
fax: 907 563 1932

email: mail@astac.net

August 28, 2013

Mr. Howard Patkotak, President  
Village of Wainwright  
P.O. Box 143  
Wainwright, AK 99782

Dear Mr. Patkotak;

This letter is intended to help facilitate engagement between Tribal government officials and ASTAC, which provides service on Tribal lands with the use of Universal Service Fund (USF) support. In 2012, ASTAC met with all tribal entities on the North Slope. Based on feedback we received from Tribal leadership, we are amending our process to better collaborate with you.

A number of tribal entities pointed out that ASTAC has an elected Director to our Board representing your community. All Directors receive extensive industry training in telecommunications, meet four times yearly to set direction for the Cooperative and could potentially be a great resource in directing the Cooperative relative to your planning. It was highly suggested that the Director coordinate with you and speak for your tribal entity, engaging the Cooperative management team on your behalf. This would be much more responsive to your evolving needs due to the quarterly standing Board meetings where you could be represented. It would also save the membership a significant amount of money. For instance, in-person tribal engagement in 2012 cost the Cooperative almost \$28,000.

If this alternative approach makes sense to you, please email me at [steve@astac.net](mailto:steve@astac.net) and confirm your interest in using our Board member as your organization's representative for telecommunications issues, and we will take it from there. Thanks for your consideration of this tailored approach.

Best Regards,

Stephen Merriam, CEO

ASTAC, Serving the North Slope of Alaska since 1980



## **Tribal Government Pre-Meeting Questionnaire**

### **Needs Assessment and Deployment Planning**

*What are the Tribe's communications goals, needs, and priorities, as well as what the Tribe intends to do with communications services?*

*What core community or anchor institutions are central to deployment and what in the nature and operations of these institutions is relevant to the need for communications services?*

*Are there economic factors and possibly Tribally-driven opportunities that will assist in making the business case for deployment on Tribal lands, as well as opportunities where Tribal governments and communications providers can partner.*

*ASTAC has an elected Director to our Board representing your community. All Directors receive industry training in telecommunications, meet four times yearly to set direction for the Cooperative and could potentially be a great resource in directing the Cooperative relative to your planning. Would you like the Director speak for your tribal entity and engage the Cooperative management team on your behalf?*

## **Feasibility and Sustainability Planning**

*Are there specific challenges associated with deploying and sustaining a communications network on your lands?*

*Many federal grant or loan programs provide direct access to, or particular standing for, Tribal Nations and their entities. That is, there are federal government programs that support infrastructure deployment and support the economic, health, safety, and welfare missions in Native communities. Are there any additional resources the Tribal entity may bring to bear in feasibility and sustainability planning for communications services?*

## **Marketing Services in a Culturally Sensitive Manner**

The Tribal engagement obligation provides Tribal governments and ASTAC with the opportunity to discuss and explore ways in which we can coordinate or partner to ensure that services are marketed in a manner that will relate directly to the community, resonate with consumers, and stimulate increased adoption of services on Tribal lands.

*Would you be interested in developing materials, separately or jointly, specific to the Tribal community?*

*Would you like to review and comment on our marketing materials as part of the development process?*

*What other elements of our respective organizations may need to be engaged? For Tribal governments, this may mean administrative planning, community service, and other governmental offices. For ASTAC, this may mean customer service, technical assistance, and commercial business divisions.*

### **Rights of Way and Other Permitting and Review Processes**

There are numerous regulatory processes with which ASTAC must comply in order to provide communications services on Tribal lands, including rights of way, land use permitting, facilities siting, and environmental and cultural review processes.

*Are there additional regulatory processes beyond those practiced and disclosed by ASTAC that should be incorporated in serving Tribal lands?*



### **Compliance with Tribal Business and Licensing Requirements**

As sovereign institutions, Tribal governments have the authority to impose Tribal business and licensing requirements on all entities doing business on their lands. The form of these licenses vary greatly, including certificates of public convenience and necessity, Tribal business licenses, master licenses, and other related forms of Tribal government licensure.

*Please provide a comprehensive list of any business and licensing requirements applicable to the provision of the cooperative's communications services, including an explanation of precisely what all such requirements entail, specific application procedures and timeframes, as well as the governmental offices involved in the licensing process. As part of this process, ASTAC will provide you with a list of existing licenses in place, as applicable.*

## Tab 3



4300 B Street, Suite 501  
Anchorage, AK 99503

Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc.

907 563 3989  
1 800 478 6409  
fax: 907 563 1932  
email: mail@astac.net

November 1, 2013

Mr. Howard Patkotak, President  
Village of Wainwright  
P.O. Box 143  
Wainwright, AK 99782

Dear Mr. Patkotak:

This letter is intended to reference a letter sent to you recently by ASTAC's CEO, Steve Merriam. In his letter Mr. Merriam asks that you consider using ASTAC's elected board member as your organization's representative for telecommunications issues.

I have enclosed a copy of the letter and a questionnaire proposed by the FCC. We are requesting that you support this alternative approach to tribal engagement as a means of getting the necessary input in the most cost effective manner.

You may contact me at 907-564-2650 or via email at [Charlie@astac.net](mailto:Charlie@astac.net). I will follow up in 10 days by telephone, if we have not connected by then.

Thanks in advance for your help.

Cordially,

Charlie Carpenter, CNO  
ASTAC, Serving the North Slope of Alaska since 1980



4300 B Street, Suite 501  
Anchorage, AK 99503

Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc.

907 563 3989  
1 800 478 6409  
fax: 907 563 1932

email: [mail@astac.net](mailto:mail@astac.net)

August 28, 2013

Tribal President  
Village of Anaktuvuk  
P.O. Box 21065  
Anaktuvuk Pass, AK 99721

Dear Tribal President;

This letter is intended to help facilitate engagement between Tribal government officials and ASTAC, which provides service on Tribal lands with the use of Universal Service Fund (USF) support. In 2012, ASTAC met with all tribal entities on the North Slope. Based on feedback we received from Tribal leadership, we are amending our process to better collaborate with you.

A number of tribal entities pointed out that ASTAC has an elected Director to our Board representing your community. All Directors receive extensive industry training in telecommunications, meet four times yearly to set direction for the Cooperative and could potentially be a great resource in directing the Cooperative relative to your planning. It was highly suggested that the Director coordinate with you and speak for your tribal entity, engaging the Cooperative management team on your behalf. This would be much more responsive to your evolving needs due to the quarterly standing Board meetings where you could be represented. It would also save the membership a significant amount of money. For instance, in-person tribal engagement in 2012 cost the Cooperative almost \$28,000.

If this alternative approach makes sense to you, please email me at [steve@astac.net](mailto:steve@astac.net) and confirm your interest in using our Board member as your organization's representative for telecommunications issues, and we will take it from there. Thanks for your consideration of this tailored approach.

Best Regards,

Stephen Merriam, CEO

ASTAC, Serving the North Slope of Alaska since 1980



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*Are there economic factors and possibly Tribally-driven opportunities that will assist in making the business case for deployment on Tribal lands, as well as opportunities where Tribal governments and communications providers can partner.*

*ASTAC has an elected Director to our Board representing your community. All Directors receive industry training in telecommunications, meet four times yearly to set direction for the Cooperative and could potentially be a great resource in directing the Cooperative relative to your planning. Would you like the Director speak for your tribal entity and engage the Cooperative management team on your behalf?*

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*Many federal grant or loan programs provide direct access to, or particular standing for, Tribal Nations and their entities. That is, there are federal government programs that support infrastructure deployment and support the economic, health, safety, and welfare missions in Native communities. Are there any additional resources the Tribal entity may bring to bear in feasibility and sustainability planning for communications services?*

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*What other elements of our respective organizations may need to be engaged? For Tribal governments, this may mean administrative planning, community service, and other governmental offices. For ASTAC, this may mean customer service, technical assistance, and commercial business divisions.*

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*Are there additional regulatory processes beyond those practiced and disclosed by ASTAC that should be incorporated in serving Tribal lands?*



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As sovereign institutions, Tribal governments have the authority to impose Tribal business and licensing requirements on all entities doing business on their lands. The form of these licenses vary greatly, including certificates of public convenience and necessity, Tribal business licenses, master licenses, and other related forms of Tribal government licensure.

*Please provide a comprehensive list of any business and licensing requirements applicable to the provision of the cooperative's communications services, including an explanation of precisely what all such requirements entail, specific application procedures and timeframes, as well as the governmental offices involved in the licensing process. As part of this process, ASTAC will provide you with a list of existing licenses in place, as applicable.*

## Tab 4

# Appendix B - Tribal Engagement Telephonic Record NV Nuiqsut

Date	Time	Called Number	Person you spoke with	Summary of conversation	Your initials
12/3/2013	3:18pm	907-480-3010	ring no answer		CC
12/3/2013	3:20pm	907-480-6126	fax tone		CC
12/4/2013	2:20pm	907-480-1201 cell	ring no answer/ fast busy		CC
12/4/2013	2:25pm	907-480-3010	woman	Said Margaret is out of town doesn't know when she will be back	CC
12/10/2013	10:55am	907-480-1201cell	ring no answer		CC
12/10/2013	10:58am	907-480-3010	woman	She said Margaret actually doesn't work here...but yes, Margaret is the president and this is the correct number for the Native Village of Nuiqsut	CC
12/12/2013	10:25am	907-480-1201 cell	Margaret	She answered and said she was on a confernce call with BLM...said she would call me back at the office	CC
12/12/2013			message from Margaret		CC
12/12/2013	10:40am	907-480-1201 cell	Unavallble/caller out of area msg		CC
12/12/2013	10:50am	907-480-1201 cell	Margaret	Margaret agreed to board member (self) as representative for telecommunications issues	CC

Appendix B - Tribal Engagement Telephonic Record NV Wainwright

Date	Time	Called Number	Person you spoke with	Summary of conversation	Your Initials
12/3/2013	3:18pm	907-763-2535	woman	She said she would have him call me	CC
12/12/2013	3pm	907-763-2535	Alana - volunteer	She took my number in case he comes into the office	CC
2/12/2013	4:20pm	907-925-1265	Terry Tagarook	He said Howard is not the village corp president...but he is the traditional council president...same as Blair was last year..he said he would email Howard's number.	CC
12/16/2013	2:30pm	907-763-2535	ring no answer		CC

# Appendix B - Tribal Engagement Telephonic Record NV Kaktovik

Date	Time	Called Number	Person you spoke with	Summary of conversation	Your initials
12/3/2013	2:15pm	907-640-2042	woman	was give these numbers 907-640-6414 KIC and 907-640-6025 home to contact Edward	CC
12/3/2013	2:20pm	907-640-6414	woman	woman took message and said she would have him call me	CC
12/3/2013	3:15pm	got a call	Edward Rexford Sr	Mr. Rexford agreed that he had no problem using the ASTAC elected board member as his organization's telecommunications representative.	CC



# Appendix B - Tribal Engagement Telephonic Record NV Point Hope

Date	Time	Called Number	Person you spoke with	Summary of conversation	Your initials
12/3/2013	3:57pm	907-368-2330	woman	Jack Schaffer should be at the city office 368-2537	CC
12/3/2013	4:00pm	907-368-2537	Busy twice		CC
12/3/2013	4:15pm	907-368-2537	Busy again		CC
12/4/2013	2:30pm	907-368-2330	woman	told to call him at the city office	CC
12/4/2013	2:35pm	907-368-2537	woman	He is "unavailable" left message for him to call me	CC
12/10/2013	11:15pm	907-368-2537	ring no answer		CC
12/10/2013	1:15pm	907-368-2537	talked to Jack Shaffer	See email record dated 12/10/2013	CC

## Steve Merriam

---

**From:** Charlie Carpenter  
**Sent:** Friday, December 13, 2013 12:33 PM  
**To:** Charlie Carpenter  
**Subject:** Record of call with Jack Schaffer of Native Village of Point Hope - 12/10/2013 1:15pm

Talked to Jack on 12/10/2013....

### Misc topics:

1. He did not believe he had received the letters...I explained the issue
2. He mentioned Homeland security, X-Box and then said "your call is important to us" ...then I finally realized he seemed to be making a joke of an automated answer and maybe jokingly feigning interest...so I said "Ok I know you have more important issues"
3. Somewhere in the call he seemed to agree and said yes we have a board member...
4. Then he went on to say the one issue he had was he wanted an assurance that they won't pay more for more capacity on the QN fiber..
5. We talked about the QN folks and I said I was sure that they would be staying in touch with the folks in Point Hope
6. He then mentioned that his city voice mail had a buzz on it and he hadn't been sure how to set it up...what number to use... I said I would have someone from customer service call him
7. He also said he had feedback on calls from Bethel...I said both GCI and ATT had been having some satellite issues...
8. He said he was getting LD bills from both ATT and ASTAC...I said I would have someone from customer service call him...
9. He also mentioned he never got feedback on something were ask to support and some "mega company got it" ...like Star Band
10. He liked it better last year when we came around Halloween our people came dressed as witches...again I think joking
11. He then joked "the longer we stay on the call more I can come up with...then I said OK nice talking to you I will have customer service call you...will you be there? He said yes
12. I talked to Stella and she was going to have Gage call him...

# Appendix B - Tribal Engagement Telephonic Record ICAS

Date	Time	Called Number	Person you spoke with	Summary of conversation	Your initials
				Doreen Lampe is out of town until the 11th or the 12th..I left a message in her voice mailbox	
12/4/2013	3pm	907-852-4227	woman	explaining the issue and asking for a return call	CC
12/16/2013	2:12pm	907-852-4227	tranferred to her line	left message re: issue and my number to call	CC

# Appendix B - Tribal Engagement Telephonic Record NV Barrow

Date	Time	Called Number	Person you spoke with	Summary of conversation	Your initials
12/3/2013	2pm	907-852-4411	?	left message for Thomas Oleman to call me in his voice mail box	CC
12/10/2013	11:10am	907-852-4411	recorded announcement	left message for Thomas Oleman to call me in his voice mail box He ask that I draft a letter for his signature that he could pput on his letterhead designating ASTAC board memembr as the tribal representative -gave him my email address...he will send a request	CC
12/12/2013	2pm	907-852-4411	Thomas Oleman		CC

# Appendix B - Tribal Engagement Telephonic Record ASNA

Date	Time	Called Number	Person you spoke with	Summary of conversation	Your initials
12/4/2013	2:22pm	907-852-4611	woman	Marie Carroll is in a meeting - she will have her return my call	CC
12/16/2013	2:04pm	907-852-4611	transferred to her line	Left message re: issue and my number to call me	CC



# Appendix B - Tribal Engagement Telephonic Record NV Anaktuvuk

Date	Time	Called Number	Person you spoke with	Summary of conversation	Your initials
12/3/2013	4:17pm	907-661-3727	Patrick Mekiana - Director	He suggested calling 661-2065 She will have Justas Mekiana Jr give me a call - he is also called Kenny 661-2066 (# from Patrick)	CC
12/3/2013	4:20pm	907-661-2575	woman		CC
12/10/2013	1pm	907-661-2575	recorder	Left message on recorder asking for call back	CC
12/10/2013	1:05pm	907-661-2066	woman	he is at city offices 907-661-3612 or 3619 He gave me his home number that I just called...I ask if he would leave a message on Kenny's desk to call me...	CC
12/10/2013	1:10pm	907-661-3612	Frankle or Franklin		CC
12/11/2013	3pm		voice msg from Kenny	returned my call Kenny agreed to the idea of using Patrick the elected board member as his organization's representative for telecommunications issues.	CC
12/11/2013	3:43pm	907-661-1298	Kenny Meklana		CC

# Appendix B - Tribal Engagement Telephonic Record NV Point Lay

Date	Time	Called Number	Person you spoke with	Summary of conversation	Your initials
11/8/2013	2pm	907-833-2575	Joanne - Ofc Mgr	Email dated November 8, 2013	CC
12/3/2013	3:18pm	907-833-2575	woman	left message for Willard Neakok to call me - he was out of town	CC
12/16/2013	2pm	907-833-2575	Voice message	left message for Willard to call me	CC

## Tab 5



# **NATIVE VILLAGE OF BARROW IÑUPIAT TRADITIONAL GOVERNMENT**

---

**December 13, 2013**

**Charles Carpenter  
Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc.  
4300 B Street Suite 501  
Anchorage, AK 99503**

**Dear Charlie,**

**I am writing this letter in response to ASTAC's request that the Native Village of Barrow designate ASTAC's elected board member from Barrow as our representative for telecommunications issues.**

**I do support this alternative approach to tribal engagement as a means of getting the necessary input in the most cost effective manner with representation from the most knowledgeable and qualified member of our community.**

**You may contact me at 907-852-4411 if you have any questions.**

**Cordially,**

**Thomas Olemaun, Executive Director/President**

Status as of 12/16/2013

ICAS-Barrow  
Dareen Lampe, CEO

No response to letters or calls  
1/14/14 Ms. Lampe left message stating ICAS  
would not delegated ASTAC elected board

ASNA  
Marie Carroll, Director

No response to letters or calls

**Native Village Tribal Council-Presidents**

Thomas Olemaun Barrow

Agreed with plan/sent letter

Edward Rexford Sr. Kaktovik

Agreed with plan

Howard Patkotak Wainwright

No response to letters or calls

Margaret Pardue Nuiqist

Agreed with plan/intends to send letter

Jack Schaffer Pt. Hope

Agreed and discussed some issues

Della Shugluk Atkasuk

Newly elected no response as of yet

Kenny Mekiana Anaktuvuk Pass

Agreed with plan

Willard Neakok Pt. Lay

Initial contact by office manager, Joanne....  
no follow up from her...and no response to  
letters or calls by President Neakok

1/15/14 Joanne returned call said President  
Neakok would call me – none yet



#### **Voice Services Rate Comparability Certification**

- 1) Public Notice DA 14-384 stated that the average urban rate for local services is \$20.46. Two deviations above the \$20.46 would be \$46.96. Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc. certifies that the sum of its local rate and state fees is below \$46.96. See Form 481, Line 700 for Company Price Offerings (voice).
- 2) Line 1010 allows for an **optional attachment** which explains how a carrier's pricing of fixed voice services meets that requirement of §54.313(a)(10).



4300 B St, Suite 501, Anchorage, AK 99503

Office: 1-800-478-6409 or 907-852-7100, Fax: 907-563-3394 or 907-852-0006

Office Use Only	
ASTAC CSR:	
Proof of Eligibility Received and Effective Date(s):	
Date:	

#### LIFELINE AND LINKUP ASSISTANCE APPLICATION

Annual Certification Is Required

Check applying for: ☐ Local Service Assistance **OR** ☐ Wireless Service Assistance

#### Verify your Eligibility:

1. Complete Section A: Personal Information
2. Complete Section B **OR** Section C (not both)
3. Complete Section D: Initial, Sign, and Date
4. Attach a copy of your documents to support your eligibility
5. Return Application and Documents to ASTAC 4300 B St, Suite 501, Anchorage, AK 99503 / Fax: 907-563-3394 or 907-852-0006

#### A. PERSONAL INFORMATION

The person applying for Lifeline service **MUST BE** the same person who qualifies for the Lifeline benefits **AND** listed on the telephone bill.

CUSTOMER FIRST AND LAST NAME	
MAILING ADDRESS City, State, Zip Code	
"Main" Lifeline Telephone Number	
PHYSICAL ADDRESS City, State, Zip Code (NOT PO Box)	

Date of Birth: Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_  
(Required)                      mm                      dd                      yyyy

☐ Check here if service address is temporary

Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Required)

**Tribal Lifeline:** Single party, voice grade access to the public switched network, access to emergency services, access to operator services, access to interexchange services (unless toll blocking is chosen), access to directory assistance, and toll blocking (if requested).

**Tribal Link Up:** includes any standard charges imposed on qualifying low-income individuals on Tribal Lands as a condition of initiating service, including both line extension and initial connection charges. The customer will receive assistance for 100% of connection fees up to \$100.00. This is the maximum federal assistance available. The supported services under this section do not include charges assessed for facilities or equipment that fall on the customer's side of the demarcation point, i.e. customer premises equipment and inside wiring charges. Any additional installation charges or line extension charges will be the responsibility of the customer. Expanded Link-Up Service assistance shall be provided a subsequent time only for a principal residence with a different address than the residence where Expanded Link-Up Service was previously provided.

Check applying for: ☐ Tribal Lifeline (monthly reoccurring charge) ☐ Tribal Link Up (installation charges)

**B. PROGRAM-BASED ELIGIBILITY\***

Check all program(s) in which you or a member of your household is currently enrolled. **YOU MUST PROVIDE PROOF OF PROGRAM PARTICIPATION.** This could include a copy of your benefit ID card, a copy of an eligibility letter from an authorized agency or prior year's statement of benefits. (Do not send original documents.)

<p><input type="checkbox"/> E1 - <u>Medicaid</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> E2 - <u>Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (Food Stamps or SNAP)</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> E3 - <u>Supplemental Security Income (SSI)</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> E4 - <u>Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> E5 - <u>Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> E6 - <u>Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> E7 - <u>National School Lunch Program's Free Lunch Program</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> E8 - <u>Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) General Assistance</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> E9 - <u>Tribally administered Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TTANF)</u></p> <p>E10 - <u>Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)</u> <i>(at this time no authorized programs are available)</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> E11 - <u>Head Start (income based criteria only)</u></p> <p> (Documentation will NOT be returned and proof will be shredded)</p>	<p>E12 - State Assistance Programs (If Applicable)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <u>Alaska Adult Public Assistance</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <u>Alaska Heating Assistance Program</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <u>Alaska Public Housing</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <u>Alaska Senior Care</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <u>Alaska Temporary Assistance Program (ATAP)</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <u>Child Care Assistance (PAS I, II, III)</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <u>Denali Kid Care</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <u>Pioneer Home Payment Assistance</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <u>Sr. Citizen Housing Development Fund</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> E13 - <u>Eligibility Based on Income (see Section C)</u></p> <p>E14 - Program Eligibility Approved by State Administrator</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <u>Home Investment Partnership Program ("HOME")</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <u>Interest Rate Reduction for Low Income Borrowers</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <u>Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <u>VA Disability Pension</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <u>WIC - Women Infants and Children Program</u></p>
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\* IF THE PARENT QUALIFIES FOR THE BENEFITS DUE TO A MINOR CHILD, THEN MINORS' INFO IS NEEDED AS THE "BENEFITS QUALIFYING PERSON"

Minor's First and Last Name	Date of Birth	Last 4 Digits of Social Security Number

**C. INCOME-BASED ELIGIBILITY**

Calculate **TOTAL** household income by reporting the income of all adult persons residing in your home in the appropriate category:

<p><b>Income Source</b></p> <p>Prior year's State, Federal or Tribal tax return <b>OR</b></p> <p>Social Security; Retirement income</p> <p>Alimony or Child Support</p> <p>Wages</p> <p>Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance</p> <p>Unemployment; Worker's Compensation</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>TOTAL:</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Amount</b></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"><tr><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td></tr></table>								<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"><tr><th colspan="2">2014 FEDERAL POVERTY GUIDELINES – 135%</th></tr><tr><th>HOUSEHOLD SIZE</th><th>ALASKA</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>\$ 19,683</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>\$ 26,541</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>\$ 33,399</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>\$ 40,257</td></tr><tr><td>5</td><td>\$ 47,115</td></tr><tr><td>6</td><td>\$ 53,973</td></tr><tr><td>7</td><td>\$ 60,831</td></tr><tr><td>8</td><td>\$ 67,689</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">For families or households with more than 8 persons, add \$6,858 for each additional person</td></tr></table>	2014 FEDERAL POVERTY GUIDELINES – 135%		HOUSEHOLD SIZE	ALASKA	1	\$ 19,683	2	\$ 26,541	3	\$ 33,399	4	\$ 40,257	5	\$ 47,115	6	\$ 53,973	7	\$ 60,831	8	\$ 67,689	For families or households with more than 8 persons, add \$6,858 for each additional person	
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7	\$ 60,831																														
8	\$ 67,689																														
For families or households with more than 8 persons, add \$6,858 for each additional person																															

You must attach proof of income as reported above, examples include:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Prior year's State, Federal or Tribal tax return <b>OR</b></li><li>Most recent statement from each type of current income source(s) noted above:</li><li>▪ <b>Three consecutive months'</b> worth of your most current pay stubs from all employers</li><li>▪ Social Security statement of benefits</li><li>▪ Veterans Administration statement of benefits</li><li>▪ Retirement/Pension statement of benefits</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Unemployment/Workmen's Compensation statement of benefits</li><li>▪ Child Support documentation</li><li>▪ Federal or Tribal notice letter of participation in Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance <b>OR</b></li><li>▪ Divorce Decree</li></ul>
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**D. SIGNATURE (This section must be filled out completely)**

Please read the following statements, **initial** by each sentence, and **sign** below. [Disclosure Statement: Perjury and false statements are punishable by fine and/or imprisonment under Title 18 of the U.S. Code.]

By signing below, I **certify under penalty of perjury**, to each and every one of the following:

- \_\_\_\_ 1. I meet the income-based or program-based eligibility criteria for receiving Lifeline, provided in 47 C.F.R. Section 54.409. I have provided documentation of eligibility;
- \_\_\_\_ 2. I will notify the carrier **within 30 days** if, for any reason, I no longer satisfy the criteria for receiving Lifeline including, as relevant, if I no longer meet the income-based or program-based criteria for receiving Lifeline support, I am receiving more than one Lifeline benefit, or another member of my household is receiving a Lifeline benefit;
- \_\_\_\_ 3. If I am seeking to qualify for Lifeline as an eligible resident of Tribal lands, I live on Tribal lands, as defined in 47 C.F.R. Section 54.400(e);
- \_\_\_\_ 4. If I move to a new address, I will provide that new address to the telephone company **within 30 days**;
- \_\_\_\_ 5. If I provided a temporary residential address to the telephone company, I will be required to verify my temporary residential address **every 90 days**;
- \_\_\_\_ 6. My household will receive only one (1) Lifeline service, and, to the best of my knowledge, my household is not already receiving a Lifeline service;
- \_\_\_\_ 7. I acknowledge that I will be required to re-certify my continued eligibility for Lifeline annually, and my failure to re-certify as to my continued eligibility will result in de-enrollment and the termination of my Lifeline benefits pursuant to 47 C.F.R. Section 54.405(e)(4);
- \_\_\_\_ 8. I acknowledge that providing false or fraudulent information to receive Lifeline benefits is punishable by law; and
- \_\_\_\_ 9. The information contained in the application and certification form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.
- \_\_\_\_ 10. I acknowledge that information from this certification will be given to USAC and/or its agents for purpose of verifying that my household does not receive more than one benefit.
- \_\_\_\_ 11. I acknowledge that Lifeline Service is Non-Transferable.

- Do you or does anyone in your household have any disabilities that may inhibit access to service offerings? If yes, please explain:

X \_\_\_\_\_  
*Customer Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

X \_\_\_\_\_  
*Printed Name*



0100 Study Area Code  
0101 Study Area Name  
0102 Program Year  
0103 Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data  
0104 Contact Telephone Number - Member of person identified in data line 0103  
0105 Contact Telephone Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line 0103

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Filed as reviewed single company  
Filed as reviewed consolidated company  
Filed as subsidiary of reviewed consolidated company

Filed as audited single company  
Filed as audited consolidated company  
Filed as subsidiary of audited consolidated company

we hereby certify that the entries in this report are in accordance with the accounts and other results of the system and reflect the status of the system to the best of our knowledge and belief.

*Robert Macdonald*  
Signature

*7/1/14*  
Date

ASSETS		BALANCE PRIOR YEAR	BALANCE END OF PERIOD
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
1. Cash and Cash Equivalents			
2. Cash-RIS Construction Fund			
3. Accounts Receivable			
4. Notes Receivable			
5. Other Accounts Receivable			
6. Prepaid Expenses			
7. Other Prepaid Expenses			
8. Other Prepaid Expenses			
9. Other Prepaid Expenses			
10. Total Current Assets (1 thru 9)			
<b>NONCURRENT ASSETS</b>			
11. Investment in Affiliated Companies			
12. Other Investments			
13. Other Investments			
14. Other Investments			
15. Other Investments			
16. Other Investments			
17. Total Noncurrent Assets (11 thru 16)			
<b>PROPERTY, PLANT, AND EQUIPMENT</b>			
18. Property Held for Future Use			
19. Property Held for Future Use			
20. Property Held for Future Use			
21. Property Held for Future Use			
22. Property Held for Future Use			
23. Property Held for Future Use			
24. Total Assets (18 thru 23)			
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>			
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
25. Accounts Payable			
26. Notes Payable			
27. Accounts Payable			
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58. Accounts Payable			
59. Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity (51 thru 58)			

**REDACTED  
FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION**

Jointly Operating Report for Privately Held Bank of National Commerce  
Balance Sheet - Data Collection Point

Page 2 of 2

4100 Study Area Code

4110 Study Area Name

4120 Program Year

4130 Contact Name - Person (NAME should include organization and title)

4140 Contact Telephone Number - Number of person (Name and title) 4100s

4150 Contact Telephone Area Code - Area Code (if person) 4100s

PCF Form 411

4160 Contact Name - Person (NAME should include organization and title)

4170 Contact Telephone Number - Number of person (Name and title) 4100s

4180 Contact Telephone Area Code - Area Code (if person) 4100s

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PART 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE BANK AND SUBSIDIARIES (SEE INSTRUCTIONS)		BOOK YEAR	TIME YEAR
1.	Assets		
2.	Liabilities		
3.	Assets		
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100.	Liabilities		



REDACTED  
FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

(5005c) Operating Report for Privately-Held Rate of Return Carriers  
Balance Sheet - Data Collection Form  
Page 3 of 3

FCC Form 481  
OMB Control No. 3060-0585  
July 2013

<010> Study Area Code  
<015> Study Area Name  
<020> Program Year  
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data  
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>  
<039> Contact Telephone Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>

613001  
<010> ARCTIC SLOPE TEL  
<015> 2015  
<020> JOURNAL MCMAN  
<035> 307-564-2680  
<039> sloweja@usac.mn

PART C. STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS	
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
1. Beginning Cash (Cash and Equivalents plus RUS Construction Fund)	
2. Net Income	Adjustments to Reconcile Net Income to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities
3. Add: Depreciation	
4. Add: Amortization	
5. Other (Explain)	Nonregulated activity; reconciling to audited financials
6. Decrease/(Increase) in Accounts Receivable	Changes in Operating Assets and Liabilities
7. Decrease/(Increase) in Materials and Inventory	
8. Decrease/(Increase) in Prepayments and Deferred Charges	
9. Decrease/(Increase) in Other Current Assets	
10. Increase/(Decrease) in Accounts Payable	
11. Increase/(Decrease) in Advance Billings & Payments	
12. Increase/(Decrease) in Other Current Liabilities	
13. Net Cash Provided/(Used) by Operations	
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES	
14. Decrease/(Increase) in Notes Receivable	
15. Increase/(Decrease) in Notes Payable	
16. Increase/(Decrease) in Customer Deposits	
17. Net Increase/(Decrease) in Long Term Debt (including Current Maturities)	
18. Increase/(Decrease) in Other Liabilities & Deferred Credits	
19. Increase/(Decrease) in Capital Stock, Paid-in Capital, Membership and Capital Certificates & Other Capital	
20. Less: Payment of Dividends	
21. Less: Patrimoine Capital Credits Retired	
22. Other (Explain)	Nonregulated activity; reconciling to audited financials
23. Net Cash Provided/(Used) by Financing Activities	
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	
24. Net Capital Expenditures (Property, Plant & Equipment)	
25. Other Long Term Investments	
26. Other Noncurrent Assets & Jurisdictional Differences	
27. Other (Explain)	Nonregulated activity; reconciling to audited financials
28. Net Cash Provided/(Used) by Investing Activities	
29. Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash	
30. Ending Cash	



## REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

Board of Directors  
Arctic Slope Telephone  
Association Cooperative, Inc.

### Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements of Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc. (Cooperative) and its subsidiaries, which comprise the consolidated balance sheets as of December 31, 2013 and 2012, and the related consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, members' equity, and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these consolidated financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate for the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements.

**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS**  
**(continued)**

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

***Opinion***

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc. and its subsidiaries as of December 31, 2013 and 2012, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Mass Adams LLP

Spokane, Washington  
March 28, 2014

#### 54.313(g) Areas with no terrestrial backhaul

All the Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc. (ASTAC and dba ASTAC Wireless) markets, with the exception of Deadhorse and Nuiqsut, are not connected by roads and are only fed by satellite backhaul facilities. Deadhorse has both microwave and fiber middle mile access, which is extended to the village of Nuiqsut by ASTAC owned microwave assets. Of those villages without terrestrial backhaul, the following support the minimum service level of 1M down/256K up: Barrow. The remaining, Kaktovik, Anaktuvuk Pass, Atkasuk, Wainwright, Point Lay and Point Hope, villages do not meet the minimum service level for the following reason(s): Cost prohibitive backhaul facilities. ASTAC continues to seek economically sound solutions to address those villages currently not offering the minimum speed requirement.